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MI 700 History of Christian Mission

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DESCRIPTION
A survey of the expansion of Christian faith from its beginning to the present time. Gives attention to emerging factors and themes contributing to advance or decline at key historical junctures and assesses the present state of Christianity in its world-wide spread.

OBJECTIVE
The course is designed to help students understand how Christianity spread across the globe during the past two millennia, how the idea of mission came about among Christians of different traditions and times, and how mission was practiced in different periods of Christian history. Attempts will be made to identify patterns of advance and decline, their historical factors, and other missiological issues of continuing relevance. The course traces the growth of the church with particular attention to the crossing of cultural barriers and adaptation to various social-cultural contexts.

REQUIRED TEXTS


RECOMMENDED [One copy on reserve]


**SOME SUGGESTED TEXTS FOR FURTHER READINGS ON CONTEMPORARY MOVEMENTS AND PRESENT STATE OF CHRISTIAN MISSIONS IN AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA, AND ASIA:**

**Africa:**


**Latin America:**


**Asia:** (Focus on India, China, and S. Korea)


**OTHER HELPFUL REFERENCES:**


**COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

1. **Completion of Assigned Readings and Participation in Class Discussion:** Each candidate is expected to be regular in class, and to have read the assigned readings (required) before the class and be prepared to discuss them. Make a copy of the Reading Interaction Form (included in this syllabus), turn it in each week. As far as possible, assigned readings are on the scheduled topics. The scheduled topics will be covered through lectures, discussion (based on the weekly readings), and student presentations. Thus, reading the assigned texts is essential.

Assignments for readings are given only from the required texts. Students are expected to read relevant chapters from the recommended and suggested texts. While the MI 600 students are to complete at least 1000 pages of
reading, candidates of MI 700 should have completed at least 1400 pages of reading at the end of the course. This component carries 15% of the total grade.

2. Research Papers: Each candidate will write two research papers, one on a biography of a missionary or indigenous leader and the other on a more general theme in the history of missions. Propose topics (biography and a theme in the history of missions) and get an approval from the instructor. The first of these, about 10 pages, serves as a Mid-term Paper (due October 26, 2006), and counts for 25% of the total grade. The second paper, 15-20 (MI600)/20–22 (MI700) pages, due on (or before) December 7, 2006, will count for 40%. In addition, candidates of MI 700 will do a 20-minute class presentation of one of their papers (to be graded as part of the paper).


3. Final Summary Paper: A brief summary paper, 5 – 6 pages, over-viewing the history of the Christian world mission, is to be submitted on the final exam date (December 14). This will count for 20%.

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PAPER

1. You may use either the anthropological style (recommended by the ESJ School) or the Chicago/Turabian style, but be consistent. The paper must be typed or computer-printed, and should include appropriate documentation of sources cited or consulted. (See “Academic Writing in the ESJ School,” available as a hand-out from the ESJ School Office.)

2. Please have the paper proof-read before submission. Use editorial assistance if necessary.

3. Follow the syllabus guidelines as to the length of the paper. The grade will depend on creative analysis of the topic, construction of the case (thesis) development of the argument, use of proper form and style, and evidence of adequate research. It’s the content and not the length which determines the quality of the paper.
COURSE GRADING:

The unit of credit is a semester hour, which is defined as one hour of classroom work per week for one semester, or its equivalent. The 4.00 point system is used to compute grade point standing. The grading system is:

A 4.00 Exceptional work: surpassing, markedly outstanding achievement of course objectives.

B 3.00 Good work: strong, significant achievement of course objectives.

C 2.00 Acceptable work: basic, essential achievement of course objectives.

D 1.00 Marginal work: inadequate, minimal achievement of course objectives.

F 0 Unacceptable work: failure to achieve course objectives.

INCOMPLETE WORK:

The official end of each term is 4:00 p.m. on the last day of the examination schedule. This hour is the deadline for handing in all course work. Each instructor may set an earlier deadline for submission of any or all course work. The student must petition the faculty person involved and the student’s advisor for permission to receive an “I” at the end of the semester.

A grade of “I” denotes that the work of a course has not been completed due to an unavoidable emergency, which does not include delinquency or attending to church work or other employment. If the work of a course is incomplete at the end of a term without an emergency, a letter grade will be given based on the grades of work done, with incomplete work counted as “F.”

Incomplete grades shall be removed one calendar month prior to the close of the following semester unless an earlier date is designated by the Office of the Chief Academic Officer on the individual petition. If the work is not completed by the time designated, the “I” shall be changed to an “F” unless a passing grade can be given based on work already completed or unless special permission is granted by the Chief Academic Officer.

Professors are required to give either a grade or an “I,” if approved, to each student registered for credit in a course. Students with Incompletes in two or more classes will not be allowed to enroll in a new semester or term without permission from their Dean.
SCHEDULED TOPICS & ASSIGNED READING

September 7:
- INTRODUCTION
  - Getting to know one another and getting to know the course
  - Church History, History of Christianity, History of missions, and Historical theology
- THE MISSIONARY NATURE OF THE CHURCH/CHRISTIANITY
READINGS Bevans & Schroeder, 1 – 37
       Neill, 3-23

September 14:
- APOSTOLIC AND POST-APOSTLIC MISSIONS
- EARLY MISSIONS TOWARD THE EAST
READINGS Bevans & Schroeder, 73-98
       Neill, 24-53
       Tucker, 21-43

September 21:
- EARLY MISSIONS TOWARD THE WEST
- CHRISTIAN EXPANSION IN EUROPE IN THE MEDIEVAL/MIDDLE AGES
READINGS Bevans & Schroeder, 99 - 171
       Neill, 54-84
       Tucker, 44-60

September 28:
- MARITIME EXPLORATIONS, “DISCOVERIES” AND MISSION
- THE JESUITS AND A NEW MISSIONARY AGE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
READINGS Neill, 85-150
       Bevans & Schroeder, 171-205
       Tucker, 60-70

October 5:
- EARLY PROTESTANT MISSIONS (ESP. AMERICAS)
- PIETISM, EVANGELICAL REVIVAL, AND THE BEGINNING OF PROTESTANT MISSIONARY CONSCIOUSNESS
READINGS Neill, 151-204
October 12: Nineteenth Century- “The Great Century”
- WILLIAM CAREY AND THE RISE OF PROTESTANT MISSIONS
- MODERN PROTESTANT MISSIONS IN THE COLONIAL ERA (1858 – 1914)
  READINGS Neill, 207-272
  Bevans & Schroeder, 206-221
  Tucker, 97-120

October 19:
- NOTABLE MISSIONARIES AND MISSION THEORIES OF THE MODERN MISSIONARY MOVEMENT: David Livingstone, Alexander Duff, Hudson Taylor, and John Nevius
- CATHOLIC AND ORTHODOX MISSIONS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY
  READINGS Neill, 273-379
  Bevans & Schroeder, 221-238
  Tucker and/or Anderson, relevant chapters.

October 26: MID-TERM EXAM - FIRST RESEARCH PAPER DUE

November 2:
- MISSION AND ECUMENISM IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
- MISSION AT THE END OF COLONIALISM
  READINGS Neill, 380 - 425
  Bevans & Schroeder, 238 – 265
  Pachuau, 29-50 (photocopy available)
  Tucker, 439-457.

November 9:
- CHRISTIANITY IN AFRICA AND AFRICAN CHRISTIAN MISSIONS
  o AFRICAN INITIATED CHURCHES, AFRICAN PENTECOSTALISM AND MISSION
  o AFRICAN MISSION CHURCHES AND MISSION
  READINGS Neill, 445 - 462
  Bevans & Schroeder, 265 – 280
  Suggestion for Further Readings: Relevant Chapters of Daneel and Robert.

November 16:
- CHRISTIANITY AND MISSION IN ASIA
  o CHRISTIANITY AND MISSIONS IN INDIA AFTER THE INDIAN INDEPENDENCE
  o CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANITY AND MISSIONS IN CHINA
  o KOREAN CHRISTIANS AND WORLD MISSION
READINGS  Neill, 425 – 462  
Suggestion for Further Readings: relevant chapters in Lampert, Ro, 
Hrangkhuma, and Hedlund.  

November 23:  NO CLASS (READING WEEK)  

November 30:  
- LATIN AMERICA  
  o A CATHOLIC CONTINENT?  
  o PROTESTANTISM AND EVANGELICALISM IN LATIN 
    AMERICA  
  o PENTECOSTALISM AND MISSION IN LATIN AMERICA  

READINGS  Neill, 462 – 478  
Suggestion for Further Readings: Cook, esp. part 1 and 2.  

December 7:  SECOND RESEARCH PAPER DUE  
- CHARISMATIC CHRISTIANITY PENTECOSTALISM AND MISSION  
READINGS: Synan.  

December 14:  FINAL EXAMS (SUMMARY PAPER DUE)
Reading Interaction Form

Name__________________________________________________ Date______________

Assigned Reading__________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

What were your major learnings from this material? (List up to 5)
1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

What questions would you like to raise for class discussion?
1. 
2. 

What are some of the missiological implications of this material?
1. 
2. 
3. 

What issues or concerns for further study and reflection arise from this reading? (Optional)